



LATINO LIFE 2010

BOOKS ABOUT THE HISPANIC EXPERIENCE
Booklists for Adults

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



BIOGRAPHY

American Victory: Wrestling, Dreams, and a Journey Toward Home

by Henry Cejudo with Bill Plaschke
Memoir of the son of illegal Mexican immigrants who rose from the mean streets of Los Angeles to become an Olympic gold medalist.
GV1196.C45A3 2010

+ ***The Autobiography of Fidel Castro*** by Norberto Fuentes

Former Cuban Revolution member Fuentes, now living in exile, presents a many-sided, complex Castro in this imaginative and entertaining account.
F1788.22.C3F8413 2010

Che Guevara: A Life by Nick Caistor

The iconic rebel who came to embody the spirit of the Cuban revolution is portrayed as neither saint nor devil, but as wholly human.
F2849.22.G85C281114 2010

Evo Morales: The Extraordinary Rise of the First Indigenous President of Bolivia by Martín Sivak

An insider biography of the leader whose mandate for political, economic, and social change has made him one of Latin America's most controversial contemporary figures.
F3327.M67S58 2010

Family Sentence: The Search for My Cuban- Revolutionary, Prison-Yard, Mythic-Hero, Deadbeat Dad by Jeanine Cornillot

The author's dreams of her absent father shift dramatically throughout her childhood as she visits him during his long prison sentence.
E184.C97C68 2009

The Infiltrator: My Secret Life Inside the Dirty Banks Behind Pablo Escobar's Medellín Cartel by Robert Mazur

The author's five years undercover within the Colombian drug cartels resulted in the takedown of one of the largest money-laundering operations of all time.
HV5801.M333 2009

* ***Leaving Glorytown: One Boy's Struggle Under Castro*** by Eduardo F. Calcines

A young boy's world is torn apart when his parents decide to escape Communist Cuba and he must leave behind his beloved grandparents.
CT518.C35C35 2009

+ ***Paulo Coelho: A Warrior's Life: The Authorized Biography*** by Fernando Morais

Between his childhood in Rio de Janeiro and his worldwide acclaim as the author of *The Alchemist* came mental institutions, shock therapy, drugs, prison, and spiritual awakening.
PQ9698.13.O3546Z7613 2009

Victory Road: The Ride of My Life

by Helio Castroneves
with Marissa Matteo

He rose from the go-cart tracks of Brazil to the top as an Indianapolis 500 champion—then a federal indictment almost ended his career.

GV1032.C38A3 2010

Why This World:

A Biography of Clarice Lispector

by Benjamin Moser

The turbulent life of the Ukrainian Jewish woman who immigrated to Brazil and became one of Latin America's greatest and most enigmatic modernist writers.

PQ9697.L585Z777 2009

EXPRESSIONS

The Art of Jaime Hernandez:

The Secrets of Life and Death

by Jaime Hernandez, selection
and commentary by Todd Hignite

Profiles the author and illustrator of *Love and Rockets*, one of the first comic books to feature strong Latina characters.

PN6727.H478A6 2010

Culture is Our Weapon:

***Making Music and Changing Lives
in Rio de Janeiro***

by Patrick Neate and Damian Platt

Former drug dealers from the shantytowns of Rio came together to form AfroReggae, using music and education to help at-risk teens.

F2659.N4N416 2010

***Daisy: Morning, Noon, and Night:
Bringing Your Family Together with
Everyday Latin Dishes***

by Daisy Martinez with Chris Styler

Traveling with her family to Spain, the Dominican Republic, Peru, and Argentina, Daisy picked up over 150 recipes; here she shares simplified versions for busy cooks.

TX716.A1M237 2010

+ *Diario de Oaxaca*

by Peter Kuper

In this dazzling annotated sketchbook filled with evocative, colorful illustrations, Kuper chronicles the two years he spent in Oaxaca.

F1391.O12K87 2009x

**+ *Finding Frida Kahlo: In Mexico,
Fifty-Five Years After the Death
of Frida Kahlo, in San Miguel de
Allende***

by Barbara Levine with Stephen Jaycox

Photographs of diaries, letters, drawings, and mementos allegedly from Kahlo's personal archive offer an intimate glimpse into her life and work.

ND259.K33L48 2009

**+ *Fresh Mexico: 100 Simple Recipes
for True Mexican Flavor***

by Marcela Valladolid

The host of the TV shows *Mexican Made Easy* and *Relatos con Sabor* shares her secrets for healthy, fast, and easy-to-prepare meals.

TX716.M4V32 2009

The Lesser Tragedy of Death

by Cristina García

Poems by the author of *Dreaming in Cuban* detail her brother's battles with addiction and crime, as well as her own struggle to make sense of it all.

PS3557.A66L47 2010x

+ *The Oxford Book of Latin American Poetry: A Bilingual Anthology*

edited by Cecilia Vicuña

and Ernesto Livon-Grosman

This comprehensive collection spans over 500 years and features over 125 poets, most notably pre-Columbian and indigenous writers often overlooked in other works.

PQ7087.E5O897 2009

Unforgettable You:

Master the Elements of Style, Spirituality, and True Beauty

by Daisy Fuentes

A self-help and etiquette guide from the former MTV VJ.

HQ1219.F84 2010

HISTORY & CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

The Death of Josseline:

Immigration Stories from the Arizona-Mexico Borderlands

by Margaret Regan

A close-up look from both sides at how policy changes affect immigration patterns and lead to more tragedies along the border.

JV6456.R44 2010

The Eastern Stars: How Baseball Changed the Dominican Town of San Pedro de Macorís

by Mark Kurlansky

Seventy-nine men from San Pedro have played in the Major Leagues. One in six Dominicans who have done so is from this tiny region.

GV863.29.D65K87 2010

El Monstruo: Dread and Redemption in Mexico City

by John Ross

An American expatriate laments the increasing homogenization of Mexico City in this chronology of events that have shaped the city's remarkable history.

F1386.3.R67 2009

The Great Progression: How Hispanics Will Lead America to a New Era of Prosperity

by Geraldo Rivera

Through interviews with prominent Latinos, this book provides a look at the current influence of Hispanics and a glimpse into a future greatly affected by their contributions.

E184.S75R58 2009

+ *Hot. Passionate. And Illegal? Why (Almost) Everything You Thought About Latinos Just May Be True*

by Cristián de la Fuente

and Federico Lariño

Chilean native de la Fuente dispels myths and stereotypes about Latinos with humor and includes stories of his acting and time on *Dancing with the Stars*.

E184.S75F84 2010

Just Like Us:

The True Story of Four Mexican Girls Coming of Age in America

by Helen Thorpe

Four Denver girls illustrate the importance of citizenship as two with legal status enjoy unlimited opportunities, while the others are left behind.

F784.D49M58 2009

+ ***The Latina Guide to Health:***

Consejos and Caring Answers

by Jane L. Delgado

Based on the latest medical research regarding Latina health, this guide gives health and medical information specific to Latinas as well as advice for universal well-being.

RA778.4.H57D445 2010

Law of the Jungle: The Hunt for Colombian Guerrillas, American Hostages, and Buried Treasure

by John Otis

Kidnapped by guerrillas, the survivors of a Colombian plane crash endured abuse and neglect during their five-year wait for rescue.

HV6604.C72H696 2010

+ ***The Rhythm of Success:***

How an Immigrant Produced His Own American Dream

by Emilio Estefan

In this combination business book and memoir, music and entertainment magnate Estefan uses his life story and ideas to motivate others.

BF637.S8E88 2010

When a Heart Turns Rock Solid: The Lives of Three Puerto Rican Brothers On and Off the Streets

by Timothy Black

The role of crime, family, and social institutions in the lives of three brothers reflect the pressure on young Puerto Ricans in the U.S.

F74.S8B53 2009

FICTION

Alone in the Crowd:

An Inspector Espinosa Mystery

by Luiz Alfredo García-Roza

A woman is dead. Did she fall or was she pushed in front of that bus? Espinosa tackles a murder case with no proof of a murder.

Amigoland: A Novel

by Oscar Casares

Two feisty, aging brothers, long-estranged, travel to Mexico to investigate a family legend at the heart of their dispute.

Beantown Cubans

by Johnny Diaz

Carlos, a young Cuban-American mourning the recent loss of his mother, relocates to Boston and discovers the gay social scene of his new home.

Beautiful María of My Soul, or, The True Story of María García y Cifuentes, the Lady Behind a Famous Song: A Novel

by Oscar Hijuelos

In a sequel of sorts to *The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love*, the muse of that novel, now sixty years old, reminisces about her days and nights in Havana.

+ *The Black Minutes*

by Martin Solares

A surreal and wild ride by a debut Mexican writer and a must-read for crime fiction fans who enjoy complex plots and plenty of twists.

City of Silver: A Mystery

by Annamaria Alfieri

Counterfeit silver coins? Suicide or murder? Mother Maria Santa Hilda discovers secrets within her own convent which place her and all she cares for in peril.

*** *Damas, Dramas, and Ana Ruiz***

by Belinda Acosta

All Ana wants is to have a traditional quinceañera for her daughter, Carmen, but a resentful Carmen refuses to celebrate.

Dancing with Butterflies: A Novel

by Reyna Grande

Four women in Los Angeles are bound together in friendship by their Mexican roots and their love of Folklórico dance.

Daughters of the Stone

by Dahlma Llanos-Figueroa

Stories, passed from mother to daughter through five generations of powerful Afro-Puerto Rican women, relate their heartbreaking physical and spiritual journeys.

Death at Solstice:

A Gloria Damasco Mystery

by Lucha Corpi

The psychic investigator takes on a case involving stolen jewelry for winery owners in California, which leads to murder, kidnapping, and great danger.

The Disappearance of

Irene Dos Santos

by Margaret Mascarenhas

Irene Dos Santos went missing in the Venezuelan rain forest. Fifteen years later her friend Lily is ready to uncover the truth about what happened.

Hasta La Vista, Lola!:

A Lola Cruz Mystery

by Misa Ramirez

Need a salsa-dancing sleuth with a black-belt in kung-fu? Lola may be the most unusual detective, but she is also the most fun.

The Invisible Mountain

by Carolina De Robertis

Three generations of women in the Firielli family search for love and identity during the tumultuous political events of twentieth-century Uruguay.

Last Train from Cuernavaca

by Lucia St. Clair Robson

A wealthy and beautiful hotel owner and a young woman who has lost everything become engulfed in the Mexican Revolution in this gripping historical novel.

* appropriate for Teens

+ available in Spanish

Lone Star Legend

by Gwendolyn Zepeda

Sandy's work and personal life turn upside down in this amusing and clever novel of a blogger who reveals too much information online.

The Madonnas of Echo Park: A Novel

by Brando Skyhorse

This novel unfolds through beautifully vibrant stories that reveal the interconnected lives of Mexican Americans living in the Echo Park neighborhood of Los Angeles.

Mexico City Noir

edited by Paco Ignacio Taibo

The desolate streets and desperate lives that unfold in these twelve stories create a dramatic portrait of Mexico City's darkest places.

Monsieur Pain

by Roberto Bolaño

Paris, 1938: Poet César Vallejo is hiccupping himself to death. Mesmerist Pierre Pain is bribed not to treat him but then becomes consumed with anxiety and guilt.

+ *No Place for Heroes*

by Laura Restrepo

Politics and ideals collide when a mother and son travel to Buenos Aires to find the boy's father, a former revolutionary in Argentina's Dirty War.

Sudden Fiction Latino: Short-Short Stories from the United States and Latin America

edited by Robert Shapard, James Thomas, and Ray Gonzalez

Showcasing established and emerging writers, this book celebrates the craftsmanship of the short-short story through an array of genres and styles.

Sweet Mary: A Novel

by Liz Balmaseda

Dulce Maria Guevara is wrongly accused of being a cocaine dealer. Desperate to get her life back, she goes on a hunt for the real drug queen.

*** *The Time It Snowed in Puerto Rico***

by Sarah McCoy

Verdita is a spirited eleven-year-old at odds with her mother and confused about life. Can she make peace with her family and discover her true self?

Werewolf Smackdown

by Mario Acevedo

Vampire P.I. Felix Gomez is trying to prevent an all-out war between rival werewolf factions. Figuring out how just might get him killed.

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Latino Life is a list of recent books concerning the Latino experience, and is published as part of the Boston Public Library's observance of Hispanic Heritage Month each year.

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